

PILGRIM LAKE (Orleans)

General Information:

This 39-acre natural kettlehole pond has an average depth of 12 feet and a maximum depth of 28 feet. Transparency is good, extending to 12 feet, and the bottom is composed of muck, sand and gravel. Aquatic vegetation is common. The shoreline is mostly wooded and moderately developed with residential homes.

Access is provided by a town right-of-way on the north side of the lake. To get there, take Monument Road from Route 28. The access road can be reached from a right off of Monument Road, which runs between Pilgrim Lake and Kescayo Gansett Pond. The access is suitable for launching car top boats, canoes and lightweight trailer craft.

Fish Populations:

No recent fisheries surveys have been conducted here, but at least seven species have been recorded present in the past: chain pickerel, banded killifish, white perch, yellow perch, banded sunfish, American eel and alewife (sea-run).

Fishing:

With no recent data, it is impossible to predict how the fisheries resources are shaping up here. In the past this pond has been known for producing large pickerel, though the species was not particularly abundant. Both yellow and white perch were reported of good size and abundance during the 1960s, with particular reference being made to white perch 12 inches or better. Unless the pond has become acidified, it should still hold some very good pickerel, and perch fishing should be excellent. Try casting spoons and crankbaits to weed patches, or plumb depths of 10 to 15 feet with worm-sweetened jigs.

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